prayer in lieu of existing Idgah located at Army Ordinance Corps; and

(b) if so, the action taken on the request?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) There is no Idgah at Army Ordance Corps Centre, Hyderabad. However, an Idgah is located in close vicinity of the family quarters of Station Headquarters, Hyderabad which is located at considerable distance from Army Ordnanace Corps Centre. No request has been received from Andhra Pradesh Government for alternative site for Muslims to offer prayers in lieu of this Idgah.

Decodification of Kautilya's Arthshastra

1512. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved a proposal to decode Kautilya's Arthshastra and assigned the work to the Defence Research and Development Organisation; and

(b) if so, the detials and cost of the decodification project and its main objectives?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, DRDO has funded a project on 'Scientific Investigation of Warfare Practices in Kautilya's Arthshastra' to Pune University under 'Grants-in-Aid' scheme.The project cost is Rs. 7.31 lakh and its main objectives include investigation of claims made by Kautilya in his Arthshastra on long working and walking long distances without fatigue.

deployment of troops at LoC and International Border

1513. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deployment of troops along the LoC and International Border, defensive or keeping a check on infiltration also a part of the move; and

(b) how long the Government propose to keep the troops deployed on the border?